viz., Secunderabad, Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Lucknow and Bhopal.

(iii) Computerisation of Management Information System on 9 divisions, viz., Guntakal, Varanasi, Ratlam, Palghat, Lucknow, Danapur, Chakradharpur, Alipurduar and Jhansi.

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(iv) Computerisation of few other miscellaneous applications like Hospital Management Information System at Perambur, Coaching Cabinet, Calcutta, issue of unreserved tickets at Delhi, etc.

(c) Computerised passenger reservation systems have been sanctioned for Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack. These systems are scheduled to be implemented by March, 1991. Computerisation of Management Information System at diesel stores depot at Ajmer is in progress.

Proposal to amend Insecticides Act, 1968

2793. SHRI N. E BALARAM; SHRl GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Insecticides Act of 1968; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR); (a) and (b) There is a proposal to amend the Insecticides Act, 1968 to bring in changes that may be considered necessary as a result of the experience gained during the past few years in the working of the Act. The areas where changes are needed in the Act are being identified.

देश में बिना चौकीदार वाले रेलवे क्रासिंगों की संख्या

2794. डा. अबरार अहमद खान : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में बिना चौकीदार वाले रेलवे क्रासिंगों की कुल संख्या कितनी है और क्या सरकार इन क्रासिंगों पर बार-बार होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं को देखते हुए कोई उपाय कर रही है ; और

(ख) जयपुर के निकट मुरलेपुरा दाण्डी रेलवे क्रासिंग पर हाल में रेल गाड़ी और मेटाडोर भिड़ंत में मारे गये बच्चों के निकट संबंधियों की सरकार द्वारा कितना मुआवजा अदा किया जा रहा है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज) : (क) इस समय भारतीय रेलों पर बिना चौकीदार वाले 21,091 समपार हैं (जिनमें मवेशी और नहर क्रासिंगें शामिल नहीं हैं)। बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों पर दुर्घटनाओं की रोकथाम के लिए किये गये संरक्षा उपायों में सड़क संकेतों और गति अवरोधकों की व्यवस्था करना, गाड़ी ड्राइवरों को परामर्श देना, प्रेस, आकाशवाणी, दूरदर्शन और सिनेमा स्लाइडों, आदि के माध्यम से सड़क उपयोगकर्त्ताओं को शिक्षित करना तथा मोटर वाहन अधिनियम के उपबन्धों का अनुपालन कराने के लिए राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों और यातायात पुलिस के साथ मिलकर घात लगाकर जांच करना शामिल है ।

(ख) दुर्घटना स्थल के क्षेत्राधिकार में आने वाले मोटर दुर्घटना दावा अधिकरण द्वारा मुआवजा तय किया जाता है । यह एक न्यायिक निकाय है जो रेल मंत्रालय के प्रशासनिक नियंत्रण के अधीन नहीं है।

Problem of Salinity in Andhra Pradesh

2795. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICUL TURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that in a large tract of the delta villages in Kol-

luru and Bhattiprolu mandalam$_9$ in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh hitherto good, usable ground water obtained by borowells for irrigation of agricultural lands in the entire area has of late turned saline and of no agriculture use;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such salinity and what steps, if any, have been taken by Government to rectify the situation; and

(c) whether such thing also occured in any other part of the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The deltaic area in the south-eastern part of Guntur District is having the EC values of ground water more than 2000 ms/cm affecting an approximate area of about 2750 sq km.

(b) Reasons for ground-water sali nity are: —

(i) Application of excess irrigation water;

(ii) Ingress of sea water; and

(iii) Over exploitation of. ground water..

The National Water Policy has laid emphasis* on avoiding the over exploitation of ground water in the coastal areas to prevent the ingress of sea water into the fresh water aquifers. '

(c) Yes, Sir. Similar situation has been experienced in coastal Saurash tra and along the East Coast,

. Pesticides poisoning

2796. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state' whether Government propose to declare pesticide poisoning notifiable in view of. the deaths booths? due to aluminium phosphide which is being sold/transferred by the manufacturers; retailers and Government agencies contrary to rules and regulations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Under Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, the State Governments have been empowered to notify their officers for identifying all occurrences of pesticides poisoning (including deaths due to aluminium phosphide) coming within their cognigence: They are also to notify the officers to whom these reports are to be sent. Most of the State Governments have already notified such officers.

Setting up of Central Certification Authority

2797. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to an Arti cle under the certificate Agmark another symbol of quality published in the Hindustan Times dated the 4th August, 1990;

(b) whether it is a fact that grading under Agmark or Agmark Certification is only voluntary for products sold within the country and as per the said Article no item has been put-under compulsory granting, within the country;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any Central Agency has been given statutory powers to check and ban the sale of adulterated edible oils, spices and condiments, Atta, Basin, etc. in the country as lot of variations being noticed in this regard from State to State level booth. ^